

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-26 are cancelled.

The following list of claims replaces all prior versions and lists of claims in the application:

List Of Claims:

27. (New) A spinal fusion allograft for attachment to a vertebral body having an anterior and a posterior, comprising:

an anterior cross member of solid bone with two lateral ends, with the cross-member

including cortical bone forming at least a portion of an apophyseal ring,

configured to be between 12 and 22 millimeters high, and

configured to be substantially coextensive with the vertebral body and the apophyseal ring of the vertebral body;

two lateral members of solid bone, with each lateral member having an anterior end and a posterior end and including cortical bone forming at least a portion of an apophyseal ring, the posterior end being from 10 to 18 millimeters high,

being connected at its anterior end to a lateral end of the cross member, the two lateral members being substantially coextensive with the vertebral body, and

configured to fit substantially over the apophyseal ring of the vertebral body; and

wherein the posterior ends of the lateral members define a posterior opening of the allograft.

28. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 27 further comprising a connector adapted to connect the cross member to an associated support located posterior of the cross member.

29. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 28, wherein the associated support is adapted to be configured in different lengths.

30. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 27, further comprising a connector adapted to connect the lateral members to an associated support located posterior of the cross member and interior of the lateral members.

31. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 29, wherein the associated supports comprise at least one of a group of materials including titanium, titanium cobalt-chromium, stainless steel, plastic, and composites.

32. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 27, wherein the cross member further comprises an inferior edge adapted to secure the cross member to the vertebral body.

33. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 32, wherein the edge is serrated.

34. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 32, wherein the lateral members further comprise an inferior edge adapted to secure the lateral member to the vertebral body.

35. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 27, wherein each posterior end of the lateral members has a width of 2 to 4 millimeters.

36. (New) The spinal fusion allograft of claim 27, wherein the allograft has a depth of 20 to 30 millimeters.

37. (New) A method of anterior lumbar interbody fusion, comprising the steps of:

determining the width and depth of a patient's inferior and superior vertebral bodies to be fused;

selecting a cadaveric vertebral body adaptable to a width and depth approximately equal to those of the inferior and superior vertebral bodies to be fused, the cadaveric vertebral body having a height, an anterior portion, and a posterior portion;

removing the posterior portion of the cadaveric vertebral body to form an allograft with an anterior end, an open posterior end, and an apophyseal ring containing cortical bone;

reducing the height of the allograft so that the allograft can fit in the disc space between the inferior and superior vertebral bodies and so that the apophyseal ring of the allograft will be substantially coextensive with the apophyseal rings of the inferior and superior vertebral bodies;

surgically providing anterior access to the inferior and superior vertebral bodies; and

securing the allograft to at least one of the inferior and superior vertebral bodies.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, further comprising the step of tapering the allograft from the anterior end toward the posterior end.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the reduced height of the allograft is 12 to 22 millimeters at the anterior end.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the reduced height of the allograft is 10 to 18 millimeters at the posterior end.

41. (New) The method of claim 37, further comprising the step of placing an associated support posterior of the anterior end of the allograft.
42. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising the step of securing the associated support to the allograft.
43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the associated support is secured to the posterior end of the allograft.